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Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3299

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Tsutomu SATO et al.)
Application No.: 10/820,182)
Filed: April 8, 2004) Group Art Unit: 2815
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND) Examiner: William F. Kraig
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING) Confirmation No.: 7391
THE SAME)

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.
Copies of English abstracts for the listed foreign patent documents are also included for

the Examiner's convenience. JP Kokai Publication 2000-012858, also cited by the Japanese Patent Office, was included in an Information Disclosure Statement filed April 8, 2004, in this application and, accordingly, is not listed.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the Notification of Reasons for Rejection from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed. Applicants do not necessarily agree with the conclusions set forth in the Notification.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.


If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

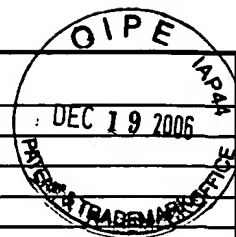
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



Dated: December 19, 2006

By:  #27432
Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;"> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> </div>				Complete if Known	
				<i>Application Number</i>	10/820,182
				<i>Filing Date</i>	April 8, 2004
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Tsutomu Sato
				<i>Art Unit</i>	2815
				<i>Examiner Name</i>	William F. Kraig
				<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	04329.3299-00000
Sheet	1	of	1		



U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 05-235337	09-10-1993	Masashi		Abstract
		JP 2002-237575	08-23-2002	Hiroshi et al.		Abstract
		JP 2003-008008	01-10-2003	Kubo et al.		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued in Japanese Patent Application 2003-129177 by the Japanese Patent Office and English translation thereof.	Yes

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.